

LPMGA FEBRUARY

GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 7— 12:30 PM
DOWNTOWN MAIN LIBRARY
301 W CONGRESS
LAFAYETTE

2018 LPMGA BOARD

MEETINGS

1 PM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26
IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE CENTER
(INHC)

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2018 BOARD:

President

MaryAnn Armbruster 2010

Vice President

Juan Nieto 2010

Recording Secretary

Patricia Soileau 2014

Corresponding Secretary

Ellen Garacci 2005

Treasurer

Debbie Garrene-Dupuy 2015

Member at Large

Jacob Williams 2016

Prior President

Charles Turner 20124

Volunteer Coordinator

Jay Ruffin, Jr. 2012

Newsletter Editor

Theresa Rohloff 2012

Agent/Adviser

Dan Devenport

LEARN ABOUT BEE CULTURE FROM DR. PAYNE



Dr. Steve Payne, retired professor and author of *Strategic Management and Thinking for Bee Keepers*, will address our group on the topic of bee culture. He is a beekeeper and has been an officer and member of the Louisiana Bee Keepers Association for many years.



New President, MaryAnn Armbruster's message:

Well, we certainly had a winter this year. I don't know about you, but I was going stir crazy after five days cooped up in the house. I don't know what I've lost – either in the Healer's Garden or my own – but I continue to hope that those roots stayed warm and cozy and will start putting out lovely green shoots when it warms up again. I would give one warning. Don't be too quick to decide that a plant is lost to the cold. After the last freeze I saw plants put out healthy green shoots, but not until July. So keep the mulch in place until all danger of frost is past, then remove the mulch so the ground can be exposed to the sun. This allows the ground to warm more quickly and hopefully, your plants will wake up and start growing.

I have a couple of pieces of housekeeping news. First, Mazie Movassaghi has decided to step down as Chair of the Handbook Committee. We owe her a great debt of gratitude for the work that she and her Committee did on the Handbook. Mazie will remain on the Committee, just not as the Chair, that position will be taken over by Louann McClelland-Long and Patricia Soileau as Co-chairs.

I will be taking over the Speakers Bureau, which has now been merged with Ask A Master Gardener and Garden Talk, so if you have any suggestions for speakers, or if you belong to another organization that wants a speaker, please let me know.

Lastly, the Board decided that each Committee should have either a Chair and an Assistant Chair or Co-chairs to insure the continual operation of the Committee should the Chair become incapable of handling the duties. If you are a Committee Chair and do not have an assistant, please find one as soon as possible. If you have any questions about this new policy, please ask me, Juan Nieto or Jay Ruffin.



MaryAnn Armbruster

EVENTS, REPORTS, AND BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

2018 LPMGA Meetings:
(First Wednesday
Except in July)
Daytime—noon/Evening—6 pm

2018 LPMGA Board Meetings
1 pm:
(Fourth Monday
except for July & Dec.)

FEBRUARY 7, 12:30 pm

Lafayette Parish Main Library

MARCH 7, 6 pm

Laf. Economic Development Ctr

APRIL 4, Noon

MAY 2, 6 pm (Social)

JUNE 6, Noon

AUGUST 1, 6 pm

SEPTEMBER 5, Noon

OCTOBER 3, 6 pm

NOVEMBER 7, Noon

**DECEMBER 5, 6 pm
(Social)**

FEBRUARY 26

MARCH 26

APRIL 23

MAY 21

JUNE 25

AUGUST 27

SEPTEMBER 24

OCTOBER 22

NOVEMBER 26

DECEMBER 17

NEEDED:

Leaders to Chair:

1. "ASK A MASTER GARDENER"

2. SPEAKER BUREAU

3. GARDEN TALKS

While our president, MaryAnn Armbruster, has stepped up to the plate for this, Juan Nieto notes that he and Linda Beyt had kept them active for the last year. Both have other commitments and while they are offering to provide support, new leaders could still to come to the plate. The committees are very important to the Master Gardener program, yet not too hard for two or three brand new members to handle, he said. These three committees can coordinate together for the group functions easily. Meanwhile we should help with this. See MaryAnn's message on our front page.

THE DEVENPORT REPORT



Juan Nieto asked that I address the general membership meeting in January on the topic: *How to Become a Better Master Gardener*. I thought about the topic for several days and while doing so, several things came to mind that I would like to share with you.

1. Welcome new class members into our association with open arms and mentor them. Each new class provides the driving force of our organization in the future and where new friendships will develop. If you decide to become a mentor for next year's class, make sure you mentor them, calling them and inviting them to attend meetings with you and attending volunteer programs of the LPMGA.
2. Committee chairs should communicate with their members often by letting them know of projects that are going on and also communicate with non-committee members in an attempt to increase participation. Committee chairs should make a report at each of the general membership meetings to inform the entire group as to what is going on within your specific area.
3. Consider joining the Speakers Bureau. There is a great need to increase the numbers in this outreach program to help educate the public.

4. Consider joining "Ask a Master Gardener." You have received so much training from the classroom, as well as the different areas in which you have become specialized, that you can share that knowledge with the general public easily. Those questions you cannot answer can be written down and given to me to answer.
5. Report volunteer hours immediately after volunteering. Many hours fall through the cracks, so you may want to consider keeping a master gardener work calendar. Although sustaining members do not have to record their hours, those hours would definitely be counted for what the Lafayette chapter contributes to the state.
6. Make sure your volunteer hours come from the approved programs the board has voted upon and are covered by the organization's insurance policy. Please contact your Volunteer Coordinator (Jay Ruffin) to make sure what you plan to report is approved and covered.
7. Make it a priority to attend general membership meetings. Listening to speakers at these meeting will allow you to earn educational hours. In addition, you may want to audit a Master Gardener class to earn some of your hours as well as going to hear our Garden Talks series speakers.
8. Be professional at all times! You represent both the LSU AgCenter as well as the LPMGA. This year you will be required to sign a Code of Conduct and return to my office for verification/filing. (The Code of Conduct is included in this newsletter.)

I will also try to be the best Master Gardner coordinator I can and lead our Lafayette group to the best of my ability.

LSU AgAgent Dan Devenport

EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE BRING YOUR REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE TO MASTER GARDENER FUNCTIONS!

What Plant is this?

I'm a native perennial with an erect clumping habit. My stems are green, but turn purple where my lancet-shaped leaves emerge. My leaves grow in whorls and they and my stems can be dried and steeped to make tea, or burned to repel mosquitoes. Named for a Native American who used my leaves, stems and flowers to reduce fever, it was claimed to treat gout, pneumonia, and Typhus, among other ills.

In moist areas such as bogs, swales, and damp pastures in Zones 7 - 10, I enjoy full sun to partial sun and partial shade. I like rich moist soil but will grow under a variety of conditions, and grow well near bodies of water. Don't let my soil remain dry for longer than a few days. I do not do well in hot, dry conditions. There are both tall (5-8 feet) and dwarf (2-3 feet) species, some of which are fragrant. My flowers are compound and composed of 5-8 florets and bracts. Their color ranges from purple to mauve to white. I attract birds, butterflies and , with my tubular corollas, hummingbirds.

My seeds and flowers are used to make natural textile dye.

I can be grown from seed directly into the garden, or by division. To divide older plants, dig entire plant and remove dead center. What remains is new growth. Replant and keep moist while I re-establish myself. You can keep me shorter by cutting my stems back by half in June. Each spring, cut me back to 4 -8 inches. I prefer an occasional deep watering rather than sprinkling. A thick layer of mulch will keep me moist.

I'm not usually bothered by pests or diseases; however, in a very damp area, snails and slugs can be a problem. In rainy seasons, fungus diseases like rust, powdery mildew and leaf spot might be a problem.

Do you know what plant I am?
See the answer on page # 6

OUR MARCH MEETING WILL BE AT LEDA



Our March meeting will take place in the evening, 6 p.m., at the Lafayette Economic Development Authority facility. The building is located at 211 East Devalcourt. We have held meetings and special events there a few times before.

The topic of our presentation will focus on the hard freeze and how we should deal with the aftermath for our citrus. The information will be very helpful in giving your fruits the best chance for recovery.

Meanwhile stay warm and take advantage of the sunshine when it visits us

ALL ABOUT BABS



2017 OUTSTANDING MASTER GARDENER

When searching for someone that exemplifies the values we would like in a Master Gardener, look no further than Babette Werner. Babette has been a very involved, active member since 2010. She has been proactive in addressing issues and providing objective, reasonable, professional, and diplomatic solutions to challenging situations. Babette's keen business sense has helped provide the LPMGA with a stable foundation on which to build. She has worked tirelessly to help develop organizational structures to support our continued growth.

Babette consistently provides a positive impact and is involved and assists with all the major activities of our organization. Following are a few of the many committees, programs and activities to which Babette has contributed: Executive Board Member

Corresponding Secretary

Vice President

President

Immediate Past President

Festival des Fleurs de Louisiane

Five Year Strategic Planning Committee

Handbook Committee

Healer's Garden at Vermilionville

Historian

Home Task Force

MG Class – Co-Coordinator since 2016

HERB DAY at LSU AG CENTER

THIS IS FROM THE LSU
AG-CENTER
WEBSITE:

Herb Day is an educational outdoor and gardening event and sale sponsored by the American Herb Society Baton Rouge Unit. There will be an Herb "Petting Zoo" and other children's activities to make this event fun for all ages. Herb classes will start at 9:30 a.m. and continue every hour.

The event is open to the public for free admission

LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
February 24, 2018 - 8:30 AM - 2 PM

Food and Fun at the 4th Annual "On Cuisine du Jardin Cook-off"



Second Graders from the Spanish Immersion Program at Alice Boucher won first place Saturday, January 20, in the School Garden Initiative 4th Annual "On Cuisine du Jardin Cook-off" at David Thibodeaux STEM Magnet Academy. Their winning menu consisted of barbecued chicken tostados, fresh corn and black bean salad, and dessert of kiwi, oranges, and strawberries. Other school teams that participated were 3rd graders from Ernest Gallet (2nd place), 5th graders from L. Leo Judice (3rd place), and first time participants, 4th graders from Ridge Elementary, (Honorable Mention); each team prepared delicious meals using vegetables/fruits grown from their school gardens and incorporating their knowledge of healthy food choices. The teams consisted of 3-5 students, an adult coach, a guest chef, and a current elected official. Guest chefs included Charles Von Aspern, The Bus Stop Chef, Jacob Williams, Café Vermilionville, Mindy Pardos, Cajundome Artisan Creative Catering, and Curt Guillory of Grilling with the Guru. Community officials were Elroy Broussard and Many Morrison, LPSS Board Members, Matt Romero, Youngsville City Councilman, and Nanette Cook, Lafayette City Parish Council. Marcelle Bienvenu, cookbook author, food writer, and instructor at John Folse Culinary Institute was our guest judge.

Alice Boucher's team will have their MyPlate menu included on the Lafayette Parish School System (LPSS) school menu for all LPSS schools participating in the School Garden Initiative program. A BIG thanks to the lead teachers and the Master Gardeners who made this such a success!

To keep your active status, Code of Conduct a Must

Find the code of conduct form on the next two pages. Every master gardener needs sign this and turn it in if they have not already. Our LSU Ag extension agent Dan Devenport share that it can either be sent to the downtown office address, drop off at the next meeting or bring it to the cottage on a Wednesday morning. This form must be completed and submitted in order to remain in good standing. Read the code and sign it.

1. Drop it off at the cottage on a Wednesday morning during propagation
2. Turn it in at the next Master Gardener General Meeting (February)
3. Drop it off at the Extension Office located at 1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325, Lafayette, LA 70501
4. Return the completed form by US postal mail service to LPMGA, 1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325, Lafayette, LA 70501

What Plant Am I?

ANSWER:

**Eutrochium (Eupatorium):
Joe-Pye Weed**



Commitment for Louisiana Master Gardener

In Louisiana, the title “Master Gardener” is to be used **only and exclusively** in Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service Master Gardener program in which trained Master Gardeners answer gardening questions and provide gardening advice. In addition to the University training, Master Gardeners can have diagnostic support via parish extension agents and state and area extension program specialists. Master Gardeners also are provided Cooperative Extension publications and fact sheets as supporting materials. Master Gardeners are expected to use the title only when doing unpaid, approved volunteer educational service in the extension noncommercial horticulture program.

Louisiana Master Gardeners are not to advertise their names or their places of business, nor to be listed on the advertisements of business places as Master Gardeners. This is an LSU Ag Center Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service public service program. Appearing as a commercial activity, having association with commercial products or giving implied University or Extension Service endorsements of any product or place of business is improper.

Individuals who are not acting on behalf of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service are strongly urged to make every effort to minimize the appearance of being on duty before making any recommendations in the area of horticulture. Speaking “off the record” is your right; make sure everyone knows you are speaking for yourself and not the Extension Service, however.

In making recommendations that include the use of pesticides (insecticides, herbicides and fungicides), Master Gardeners must follow published Cooperative Extension Service recommendations. Use of other pesticide recommendations is **not** approved. When reading a recommendation to a client, you must read it in its entirety. No omissions are allowed under any circumstances. Handwritten recommendations are **not** approved. Questions about **commercial** production of crops and pest control on such crops are to be referred to the parish extension agent. This includes all areas of the green (landscape) industry.

A volunteer in training must attend at least 80 percent of the prescribed hours of instruction and pass all examinations before becoming a Master Gardener. This certification is restrictive in nature in that it is valid only when the individual is participating in the Master Gardener program and for one year only. If an individual ceases active participation, the certification as Master Gardener becomes void and the ID badge must be returned. New certifications will be issued each year only to those individuals who make a commitment to participate for the coming year. Those not continuing in the program should be aware that if they represent themselves as Master Gardeners, they are violating their original commitment to the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service.

All Master Gardener volunteers must recognize the necessity for representing the parish Extension Service in a manner consistent with exemplary citizenship and leadership. Civil rights guidelines will be a normal and integral part of all phases of the Louisiana Master Gardener program.

Master Gardeners are expected to participate in all components of the planned program, respond to the reasonable requests of the agent in charge and respect the need for personal safety and the safety of others. Along with active participation, Master Gardeners are expected to uphold the standards of behavior expected of the LSU AgCenter staff.

The training and experience gained by participation in the Master Gardener program are valuable and may rightfully be listed and featured as qualifications when seeking employment. Once employed, and while serving as a paid employee, or if self-employed, Master Gardeners should not display credentials or give the appearance of being a Master Gardener at the place of business (unless the place of business is specifically designated as a Master Gardener event by the Extension Service.)

Experienced Master Gardeners are likely to receive invitations to speak before groups. Gratuitous payments or gifts for speaking are not a concern since such speaking activity is entirely separate from the question-answer exchange done through the Master Gardener program. Please do not seek payment for such speaking appearances, however.

Your work is much appreciated by the Louisiana Cooperative Extension and your local gardeners who will receive your counsel.

I have read the above policies regarding my services as a Louisiana Master Gardener volunteer and do hereby agree to work the required number of hours of service in the Master Gardener program in return for the training provided by the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service.

Date _____

Signature of Applicant _____

Festival des Fleurs, the main fundraiser for Ira Nelson Horticultural Center, is selling raffle tickets for a drawing to be held Saturday April 14, 2018. There are \$5 and \$2 tickets. Tickets can be purchased from any festival member or you can contact Billy Welsh, with Ira Nelson at 337-482-5339, or Cindy Risinger- Johnson 337-250-1243.

First prize with the \$5 ticket is a 4 piece Wicker Patio Furniture Conversion Set with cushions and coffee table. These can be viewed at festivaldesfleurs.org. The second and third prizes are a Container Garden from Girouard's and a Lion Fountain. For the \$2 tickets there are a number of smaller items. The drawing will be at 3:30 PM and you do not need to be present to win. However, please be close to a phone at that time so they can notify you.



Master Gardeners were joined by Academy of the Sacred Heart field trip bus to bury lots of trees within the hour.



Apache Corp provided trees for two plantings for Louisiana Arbor Day in Lafayette

Apache Corp provided trees for two plantings for Louisiana Arbor Day in Lafayette.

January 20, trees were planted at **Acadian Village**. Volunteers brought their shovels gloves water and their “best tree planted at 200 Greenleaf Drive, 9 a.m. The good group above included a busload of boarders from Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau working on their service hours. They were described as energetic and enthusiastic.

More trees are being planted on Saturday February 3rd, 9 a.m. at Graham Brown Memorial Park, 1234 East Pont de Mouton. That planting takes place near the walking path and dog park. The date was pushed back due to forecasted rain.

Photos courtesy of Mary Gladney, Class of 2017

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LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325
Lafayette, LA 70501-6884

LPMGA Calendar February 2018

FEBRUARY 3—RESCHEDULED DATE FOR PLANTING AT THE GRAHAM BROWN MEMORIAL PARK, 1234 EAST PONT DES MOUTON , 9 A.M. BRING YOUR GLOVES, SHARP SHOVELS AND WATER

FEBRUARY 7 — GENERAL MEETING, DOWNTOWN MAIN LIBRARY, 12:30 PM

FEBRUARY 13- HAPPY MARDI GRAS

FEBRUARY 14—HAPPY VALENTINES DAY

**FEBRUARY 19—NATIONAL PRESIDENTS DAY BUT NOT IN LOUISIANA
GO FIGURE**

**FEBRUARY 24— LSU AG CENTER HERB DAY—LSU BOTANICAL GARDENS
8:30 -2 PM FREE ADMISSION**

FEBRUARY 26— BOARD MEETING, IRA NEWLSON CENTER, 1 PM

Gardener's Gazette is issued to all members of the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners' Program. All members are encouraged to submit news, educational features, and photographs. The deadline for all submissions is the 17th of each month for publication in the next month's issue unless otherwise noted.

Please send newsletter items to:

Theresa Rohloff newsletter@lpmga.org

The Master Gardener program is a division of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Agency and can be contacted at:

1010 Lafayette Street/Suite 325,
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

Telephone (337) 291-7090 Fax (337) 291-7099

The Web site is www.lsuagcenter.com

The Louisiana cooperative extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State University and A&M College, Louisiana Governing Bodies, Southern University, and the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating A State Partner in the Cooperative Extension System

It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in our meetings, please call the LSU AgCenter at 337-291-7090

Please note: All meeting and event dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

